



City of Calimesa Community Recognition Program

The City of Calimesa offers multiple awards to recognize individuals, organizations, and businesses for their contributions to the community. These awards were established to raise awareness and honor community members and businesses whose actions exemplify the goals of the City and recognize youth who have demonstrated resiliency or who are the “unsung heroes.”

The award categories are:

1. Golden Heart Award – The Golden Heart Award holds a special place in the Calimesa community as it celebrates the remarkable achievements and resilience of exceptional youth. This prestigious honor is bestowed upon individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary dedication, selflessness, and strength in the face of challenges, or who have made significant contributions through their service to the community, peers, or school. Recipients of the Golden Heart Award are shining examples of young leaders who inspire others through their actions and positive influence. They embody the values of compassion, empathy, and perseverance, serving as beacons of hope and role models for their peers and the broader community. The award recognizes those who have selflessly devoted their time, energy, and talents to make a meaningful impact on the community. Whether through organizing and leading community service initiatives, lending a helping hand to those in need, or being a catalyst for positive change within their school or peer groups, these exceptional individuals exemplify the spirit of service and volunteerism. Additionally, the Golden Heart Award honors those who have overcome significant challenges in their personal lives. These individuals demonstrate exceptional resilience, courage, and determination in facing and triumphing over adversity. By persevering through difficult circumstances, they inspire others with their strength and resilience, becoming a source of inspiration and hope for those facing similar challenges. The Golden Heart Award serves as a testament to the remarkable potential and capacity for growth and impact that young individuals possess. It celebrates their dedication to making a difference and acknowledges the transformative power of their actions, both within their immediate circles and the broader community. The Calimesa community takes great pride in recognizing these exceptional individuals with the Golden Heart Award. It represents a collective expression of gratitude, admiration, and support for their remarkable achievements, inspiring others to embrace their own potential, and reminding everyone that age is not a barrier to making a positive and lasting difference in the world.

2. Community Enrichment Award

The Community Enrichment Award is a prestigious accolade that recognizes individuals, businesses, or 501(c)3 organizations who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to promoting civil rights, civic engagement, and fostering positive human relations within the vibrant and diverse community of the City of Calimesa. By striving to enhance the overall quality of life for both residents and visitors alike, these exceptional honorees have made remarkable contributions in various areas of paramount importance.



City of Calimesa Community Recognition Program

Recipients of the Community Enrichment Award are heralded as catalysts of positive change. Their tireless efforts have made a tangible impact on the lives of individuals, fostering an environment where everyone can thrive and feel a sense of belonging.

Whether through championing health promotion, providing vital human services, addressing housing challenges, transforming education, generating employment opportunities, fostering cultural awareness, or advocating for peaceful means of conflict resolution, the Community Enrichment Award acknowledges the multifaceted nature of community development. By excelling in one or more of these vital spheres, honorees have not only improved the well-being of Calimesa's residents but have also created a welcoming and harmonious environment for visitors.

The Community Enrichment Award celebrates the exemplary individuals, businesses, and organizations that have shown exceptional leadership, dedication, and innovation in their endeavors. By shining a spotlight on their remarkable contributions, this award inspires others to follow in their footsteps and actively engage in the betterment of the community. It serves as a beacon of inspiration, urging individuals and entities to recognize the power of collaboration and civic responsibility.

The City of Calimesa expresses its profound gratitude to the recipients of the Community Enrichment Award, acknowledging them as the driving force behind the city's progress and prosperity. Their passion, advocacy, and relentless pursuit of a more inclusive and equitable society serve as an inspiration to all, fostering unity and building bridges within the community. The Community Enrichment Award not only honors their achievements but also amplifies their positive impact, creating a ripple effect that will continue to shape the City of Calimesa for generations to come.

The Community Enrichment Award may be awarded posthumously.

3. Legacy of Service Award

The Legacy of Service Award celebrates individuals who have demonstrated exceptional dedication and commitment to serving their community in a specific area, be it the arts, education, health, or through major projects that bring tangible benefits to the City of Calimesa. It honors those who have gone above and beyond, exemplifying the qualities of leadership, selflessness, reliability, and active involvement in various community and recreation activities.

Recipients of the Legacy of Service Award are recognized as leaders in civic activities, taking the initiative to address pressing needs and create positive change. Their selfless service to the community sets them apart, as they consistently prioritize the well-being and advancement of others. Whether they have made substantial contributions to the arts, transformed education through innovative approaches, improved healthcare access and outcomes, or spearheaded



City of Calimesa Community Recognition Program

impactful community projects, their efforts have left a lasting impact on the lives of individuals and the community as a whole.

The Legacy of Service Award serves as a testament to the power of community engagement and the profound difference that dedicated individuals can make. It inspires others to follow in the footsteps of these exceptional individuals, fostering a culture of service and civic responsibility. Through this award, the City of Calimesa expresses its gratitude and admiration for the outstanding service rendered by these remarkable individuals, recognizing them as shining examples of selflessness and community-driven leadership.

The Legacy of Service Award may be awarded posthumously.

Eligibility

- To be eligible for consideration, all nominations shall be made on the official nomination form and include documentation of volunteer/philanthropic service, variety of contribution, and impact of service given.
- Nominations may be submitted by anyone, including Commissioners or City Council members.
- Each nomination should be for only one category; however, a nominee may be nominated for more than one category.
- The Parks, Trails and Community Service Commission will select a subcommittee of two members and one Council Member.
- Nominees do not have to be residents of Calimesa but must have made a significant contribution to the Community of Calimesa.

Selection Process

- The current City Council or Commissioners are not eligible to be nominated for an award. Former officials are eligible to be nominated.
- Any Commissioner who has a real or apparent conflict of interest with a nomination (i.e. a family member, partner or spouse nominated, or an organization nominated for which Commissioner employed or holds a leadership position) for an award must recuse themselves from participation in deliberations for that award.
- During the evaluation period, if the nomination did not include a waiver/publicity agreement signed by the nominated individual (or legal parent or guardian), the Commission will request that nominee(s) considered for award sign a waiver/publicity agreement for further consideration.
- If the Parks, Trails and Community Service Commission determines no nominations received in a particular category are appropriate, no award will be presented in that category.
- All nominees will receive a letter of recognition for being nominated.



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Award Schedule:

- Application period open year round.
- October 1st– Application period ends for the Calendar year. Applications received after October 1st will be reviewed the following year.
- October & November – Applications review and Awardee(s) selection period by subcommittee.
- December – Awardee(s) will be recognized at City Council Meeting.
- TBD – Award celebration